

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 IO-12 USIE-00 OIC-04 EB-11 EUR-25

EA-11 ARA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SSO-00

NSCE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 SY-07 USSS-00 RSR-01 /159 W

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O R 121106 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1614

INFO USUN NEW YORK 2267

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT CAIRO

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4259

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, LE

SUBJECT: GOL DECIDES CONVENE SC

FOREIGN MINISTER ABOUHAMAD CALLED THIS MORNING SAYING
HE WISHED CONVEY IMMEDIATELY NEW GOL DECISION RE
CONVENING SC. SINCE HE DID NOT CONSIDER SECURITY
SITUATION IN BEIRUT MADE IT WISE FOR ME TO VISIT HIM,
HE SENT FOREIGN OFFICAL HADDAD TO EMBASSY TO
CONVEY FOLLOWING:

1. CONSULTATIONS HELD BY GOL WITH OTHER ARAB STATES
RE POSSIBLE RECOURSE TO UN HAS UNCOVERED NEW
ATTITUDES WHICH REQUIRE GOL TO REVERSE YESTER-
DAY' S DECISION AND ASK FOR COUNCIL MEETING.

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2. MAIN DEVELOPMENT IS ALLEGED WILLINGNESS OF BOTH EGYPT AND ALGIERS TO ACCEPT A RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD INCLUDE CONDEMNATION OF ALL RPT ALL SIDES OF VIOLENCE.

3. ABOUHAMAD CONSIDERS THIS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY WHICH MUST BE EXPLOITED. HE SPECULATES THAT REPORTED SHIFT IN ATTITUDE MAY COME FROM CONFIDENTIAL APPROACHES OF MODERATE FEDAYEEN LEADERS, PARTICULARLY TO ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT, INDICATING THEY WOULD WELCOME SUCH UN ACTION AS DAMPER ON MILITANT ELEMENTS WITHIN THEIR OWN RANKS. (THIS SOUNDS A BIT FAR- FETCHED TO ME, BUT I CAN IMAGINE BOTH EGYPT AND ALGERIA MIGHT BE UNHAPPY AT RAPID ESCALATION OF SERIOUS TERRORIST INCIDENTS RECENTLY AND CREDIBLE ISRAELI THREAT TO STRIKE THE TERRORISTS ANYWHERE.)

4. GOL CONSULTATIONS REVEALED THAT NOT ONLY EGYPT AND ALGERIA, BUT ALSO TUNISIA FAVORED CONVENING COUNCIL. OF OTHERS CONSULTED, OPPOSITION TO UN ROUTE WAS REPORTEDLY VOICED BY LIBYA, JORDAN AND SUDAN. KUWAIT WAS EVASIVE AND SYRIA HAS NOT YET RESPONDED.

5. GOL ALSO FEELS IT MUST FOLLOW COUNCIL ROUTE SINCE FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION OF SOME KIND, THEY FEAR, TENDS GIVE CREDENCE WIDESPREAD CHARGES OF LEBANESE COMPLICITY IN ISRAELI RAID. GOL FEELS CERTAIN NEITHER SOVIETS OR CHICOMS WOULD VETO EVEN-HANDED RESOLUTION BECAUSE OF EGYPTIAN AND ALGERIAN POSITION.

6. IN INFORMING US OF HIS DECISION, ABOUHAMAD CONVEYED FOLLOWING REQUESTS:

A. GOL ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO MAINTENANCE OF GENERAL ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND HOPES WE WOULD NOT OPPOSE REFERENCE TO SAME IN A RESOLUTION.

B. GOL HOPES A NUANCE CAN BE DRAWN IN DIFFERENTIATING TERRORIST ACTS FROM OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT ACTS BY REGULAR TROOPS.

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7. THIS NEW DECISION TAKEN IN FULL AWARENESS OF

DETAILS SISCO- KABBANI CONVERSATION BUT IN HOPE THAT
" NEW SITUATION" CREATED BY SURPRISING EGYPTIAN AND
ALGERIAN READINESS SUPPORT CONDEMNATION OF ALL
ACTS OF VIOLENCE WILL LEAD TO POSITIVE US REACTION.

8. I ASKED IF INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN SENT TO
GHORRA TO ASK FOR MEETING. HADDAD SAID
NO BUT THOUGHT THEY WOULD BE GOING MOMENTARILY.
BUFFUM

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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